(b) whether Government are aware that there are no uniform norms for the public in the States for distribution of ration through Public Distribution;

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken to strike uniformity in issuance of Ration to the public throughout the country; and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to issue direction to the States for uniform rationing of foodgrains and other essential commodities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The operational responsibility for implementation of the Scheme of Public Distribution System (PDS) is that of the State Governments and UT Administrations. Decisions relating to scale of entitlement of PDS commodities are matters within the administrative jurisdiction of State Governments and are decided by them taking into account various factors such as quantum of allocation to the State, Sub-allocation to the districts/region within the State, local requirements etc. It would neither be feasible nor desirable to impose uniform scales of ration throughout the country.

Surprise-checks on Fair Price Shops under Public Distribution System

1234. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to conduct surprise-checks on the Fair Price Shops under the Public Distribution System in the country, particularly, in the State of Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government in this respect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) State Governments have the operational responsibility for implementing the Public Distribution System (PDS). Licensing of fair price shops and supervision of actual distribution of PDS commodities including surprise inspections etc. are matters entirely within the administrative jurisdiction of the States.

(c) The Central Government has advised the State Governments to exercise strict supervision over all fair price shops for ensuring proper implementation of the PDS. The need for ensuring people's participation in exercising vigilance over the system has been emphasised and State Governments have been requested to set up village/FPS level Vigilance Committees consisting of the consumers for supervising the distribution of PDS commodities.

Non-implementation of awards given by Central Government Tribunal

1235. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the Central Government Tribunal Awards not implemented by the BCCL as on 1st December, 1993 with details thereof giving the case, date of Award, and the present position;

(b) what is the justification for non implementation of the Awards;

(c) what are the details of the legal expenses incurred in the year 1993 till 1st December, 1993 and 1992 for contesting the Awards in the court without implementing them; and

(d) what is the justification for such expenditures ?